Aims and objectives of DRDO

1796. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and object of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO);

(b) the number and names of ammunition so far indigenously developed by the DRDO;

(c) whether DRDO is reeling under a staggering shortage of Scientists; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to recruit Scientists in DRDO?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The aims and objectives of DRDO include technological self-reliance in weapon systems required by the Armed Forces.

(b) DRDO has indigenously developed 30 types of ammunitions and mines for use by the three Services. The important names include ammunition for INSAS rifle, LMG, various caliber mortars, rockets grenades, fields guns, naval guns, FSAPDS rounds for T-72 and Arjun tanks, anti personnel and anti tank mines, cluster bombs and high speed low drag (HSLD) bombs for Air Force.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no serious shortage of manpower. DRDO manages the recruitment of Scientists taking into account the attrition rate due to resignations & voluntary retirements and requirements of various projects/programmes. However to attract and retain young Scientists, DRDO has sought Government approval for certain additional incentives.